

-15-

REMARKS

These remarks are responsive to the Examiner's action mailed March 8, 2006. Applicant has herein rewritten objected claims in independent form to further particular claims in the case to allowance. This amendment and cancellation of claims herein is not intended as acquiescence with the rejections of the remaining claims. The amendments herein serve to place the case in proper form for allowance. Applicant refers the right to pursue the unclaimed subject matter in future applications. Accordingly, reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of these remarks and amendments.

Claims 1-4 are pending.

Claims 38-40 have been allowed.

Claims 1, 3-5, 8, 16, 18-20, 23, 31 and 33-37 stand rejected.

Claims 6-7, 9-15, 21, 22 and 24-30 stand objected.

Claims 1, 7-9, 14-16, 22-24, 29 and 30 have been herein amended.

Claims 5, 6, 20, 21, 31 and 33-37 have been herein canceled.

Claims 1, 9, 16, 24 and 38 are independent.

Claim 6 has been rewritten in independent form as claim 1 including the subject matter of intervening claim 5.

Claim 9 has been rewritten in independent form including the subject matter of claims 1, 5 and 8.

Claim 21 has been rewritten in independent form as claim 16 including the subject matter of intervening claim 20.

Claim 24 has been rewritten in independent form to include the subject matter of claims 16, 20, and 23.

Claims 38-40 have been indicated as allowable.

As the remaining claims depend, either directly or indirectly, from claims 1, 9, 16 and 24, which by the foregoing remarks are deemed allowable, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are appropriate for allowance.

Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for any extension of time which is required to maintain the pendency of this case. If there is a fee occasioned by this

-16-

response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50-3735.

If the enclosed papers or fees are considered incomplete, the Patent Office is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned collect at (508) 616-9660, in Westborough, Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,



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